appeared in the 'Times of India' dated 14th June, 1994 that the Minorities Commission want a "Secular Police force"; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating any special recruitment in the force".

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 'Police' is a State subject the recruitment to the police forces is the concern of State Governments. However, under the 15 point programme for the upliftment of minorities, enunciated by the Government of India in 1983, the need to give special consideration to minorities in the recruitment of State Police forces was stressed. State Government has been advised from time to time to take special steps to encourage candidate from the minority communities for recruitment in the police forces and to ensure that the police forces retain their secular character.

Setting up of a Computerised Criminal Information System

1217. SHRI T. VENKATARAM REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made under the project for setting up of a nation-wide computerised criminal information system during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c the steps being taken for the effective implementation of the project: and

(d) by when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Selection of Hardware and Soft ware for the project have been made and product conformity tests have been completed. Seven application Software packages have been developed and installed Forther, the process of imparting training to CCIS personnel is under way. A monitoring Committee have also been set up consisting of the representatives of the Government of India and State Governments to monitor the implementation of the project. The project is expected to be completed by June, 1995.

TADA detenues

1218. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons detained under TADA in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh from 6th December, 1992 onwards;

(b) what is the number out of them arrested between 6th December, 1992 to the date of Bombay bomb blasts and the number of persons detained after the Bombay bomb blasts in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(c) what is the break up about Muslims, Hindus, Christians and Sikhs;

(d) what is the number of designated Courts which have been established to try the cases under TADA in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(e) by when these cases are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The infomation on number of persons detained under TADA is not maintained datewise and community-wise by this Ministry.

(d) As per available information, the Government of Maharashtra and Gujarat have established 8 and 18 Designated Courts to try cases under the Act, respectively.

(e) The Government, an Executive Body, is not in a position to say how

long the Designated Courts, which are Judicial Bodies, will take to dispose off these cases.

Death centenary of Bankim Chandra Chatterji

1219. SHRI K. R. MALKANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the death centenary of Bankim Chandra Chatterji author of 'Vande Matram' falls this year;

(b) whether Government are Planning to observe it on a nation-wide scale; and

(c) whether Government would consider constituting an All Party Celebrations Committee for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Presence of Foreign Intelligence Agencies in India

1220. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 40 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd February, 1994 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are aware of the presence of some foreign intelligence agncies and mercenaries other than Pakistan's ISI operating in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to root out the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Evidence of foreign mercenaries aiding and abetting terrorism in certain parts of the country has come to the notice of the Government. Government is alert and vigilant against the activities and designs of foreign mercenaries and other agencies. It will not be in public interest to disclose further details in this regard.

(c) Government is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para-military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable sectors at the borders. Steps to check infiltration/exfilteration have been intensified.

Declaration of disturbed area

1221. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the areas in the country which have been declared as disturbed areas and their state-wise and district-wise break-up and since when.

(b) whether there are some criteria or specific guidelines for declaring an area as disturbed area, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the gravity of the situation in Doda warrants that it should be declared as disturbed area, if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The principal criteria for declaring any area as 'Disturbed Area' is deterioration of law and order situation in that area. As per information available, the following areas are declared as disturbed areas :